Message Text

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AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 2387 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO PHNOM PENH DATED APRIL 18.

QUOTE

SECRET CAIRO 2387

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN UNGA EGEN CB

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF GKR DELEGATION TO EGYPT

REF: PHNOM PENH 5380

1. WE HAVE HAD FEW OCCASIONS TO DISCUSS CAMBODIAN DEVELOPMENTS WITH EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS. WE WOULD POINT OUT, HOWEVER, THAT GOE RECOGNIZES PRINCE SIHANOUK'S GOVERNMENT AND THAT LATTER MAINTAINS A FULL FLEDGED, THOUGH NOT VERY ACTIVE EMBASSY HERE (COMPLETE WITH RESIDENT AMBASSADOR) UNDER SECRET

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THE DESIGNATION "KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA." ONE SENIOR MFA

OFFICIAL WITH WHOM THE SUBJECT OF CREDENTIALS FOR VARIOUS UN BODIES WAS RECENTLY DISCUSSED COMMENTED IN PASSING THAT, IN HIS VIEW, SIHANOUK AND THE FORCES SUPPORTING HIM WILL ULTIMATELY PREVAIL AFTER WHICH SIHANOUK HIMSELF WILL BE GOTTEN RID OF. IN SHORT, THERE APPEARS TO BE AN ATTITUDE OF DISINTERESTED FATALISM ABOUT CAMBODIAN DEVELOPMENTS IN GOE CIRCLES. WE HAVE IMPRESSION EGYPTIANS WANT TO STAY AT ARMS LENGTH FROM CONFLICT.

2. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT GOE WOULD AT THIS
TIME BE RESPONSIVE TO OVERTURES TO CHANGE ITS POSITION
VIS-A-VIS SIHANOUK'S REGIME. IN A SOMEWHAT ANALOGOUS
INSTANCE, IT HAS RECENTLY SHOWN ACUTE SENSITIVITY TO ANY
SUGGESTION OF DIRECT CONTACTS WITH GVN, EVEN ON A MATTER
OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST TO GOE. GIVEN CURRENT SOVIET
ATTACKS ON SOME OF SADAT'S POLICIES, IT IS NOT, RPT NOT,
LIKELY THAT GOE WILL WANT TO ADD FUEL TO SOVIET ATTACKS
BY APPEARING TO BE FLIRTING WITH GKR. IT WOULD ALSO BE
SENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC AND OTHER ARAB CRITICISM. GKR WOULD OF
COURSE HAVE TO RECKON WITH CAMBODIAN EMBASSY HERE DOING EVERYTHING
TO THWART ANY DIALOGUE WITH GOE. PRC EMBASSY HERE WOULD PROBABLY
DO THE SAME.

3. IN OUR JUDGMENT, GOE MIGHT CONCUR IN PROPOSED VISIT OF A CHAM DELEGATION ON UNDERSTANDING IT WOULD LIMIT ITS EFFORTS TO DISCUSSING COMMON MUSLIM INTERESTS. INDONESIANS AND MALAYSIANS ARE NOT PARTICULARLY INFLUENTIAL HERE. NEVERTHELESS, IF THEY FELT DISPOSED TO DO SO, THEY MIGHT USEFULLY SUPPORT GKR REQUEST THAT SUCH A MUSLIM DELEGATION BE RECEIVED. GKR WILL BE WELL ADVISED TO DIRECT ITS INOUIRY TO SOME PROMINENT EGYPTIAN ISLAMIC FIGURE. SUCH AS THE GRAND SHEIKH OF AL-AZHAR UNIVERSITY, RATHER THAN FORMALLY TO THE GOE. IN LAST RESORT LATTER WILL STILL HAVE TO CLEAR VISIT, BUT IT MIGHT FIND IT EASIER IF VISIT CAST IN PURELY ISLAMIC CONTEXT. IF SAUDIS COULD BE PERSUADED SAY WORD TO THE EGYPTIANS ABOUT DESIRABILITY OF RECEIVING DELEGATION. THIS MIGHT ALSO HELP. WE WOULD RATE PROSPECTS OF PROPOSED CHAM MUSLIM DELEGATION PERSUADING GOE TO RECEIVE A GKR "POLITICAL DELEGATION" SOMETIME PRIOR TO 29TH UNGA AS POOR. SECRET

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4. WE COULD SAY A WORD TO GOE TO URGE THAT IT RECEIVE GKR MUSLIM DELEGATION, BUT MUST RECKON WITH THE FACT THAT OUR INFLUENCE IS NOT LIKELY TO BE COMPELLING IN THIS MATTER. REGRET TO APPEAR NEGATIVE, BUT ABOVE REFLECTS FACTS OF SITUATION HERE.

EILTS UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

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Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

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Subject: PROPOSED VISIT OF GKR DELEGATION TO EGYPT TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, CB, UN, UNGA, (SIHANOUK)

To: JAKARTA MULTIPLE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005